

Serial No. 09/727,313
Attorney Docket No. 020533.0345 (2001P21474US)

REMARKS

Claims 31-56, and 58-67 are presented for examination. No claims have been amended, canceled or added by way of this response. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims in view of the following remarks.

Response to rejections under Sections 112:

Claims 31, 36, 49, 64, 67 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, the Examiner asserting that the phrase "signal encapsulated within" a header is unclear. Applicants respectfully submit that the term "encapsulation" is commonly understood by those skilled in the art to mean the inclusion of e.g. a first data structure within a second structure so that so that the first data structure may be hidden. Attached as Appendix A is a web page providing such an explanation of the term "encapsulation". Further, the term "signal" is meant as a Point-to-Point Protocol (PPP) signal having a PPP payload and a PPP header (see e.g. Figure 2). Therefore, the "signal encapsulated within" a header properly means the PPP signal is included within the header so that the signal is hidden from the typical header processing, e.g. Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP) DISCOVER.

If the Examiner has any further concerns regarding the 112 rejection, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the Applicants' attorney to discuss this matter.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the Section 112 rejection.

Response to rejections under Sections 102:

Claims 31, 34-36, 39-44, 48-54, 57-58, 61-62, 64, 67 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e), the Examiner contending that these claims are anticipated by Verma et al. (USPN 6,614,809).

The Examiner apparently reads Verma as disclosing a Start-Control-Connection-Request (SCCRQ) header 114 to initiate establishment of a tunnel connection. The Examiner then states, "while initiating the connection itself the connection request also has a PPP signal/data encapsulated within its header". Applicants respectfully disagree and submit that there is no disclosure or suggestion by Verma that a PPP signal 124 is encapsulated in the header 114 as recited in applicants' claims. Rather, Verma describes a sequence of messages, Domain Name

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System (DNS) call and Start-Control-Connection, to initiate the establishment of a tunnel without including a PPP signal 124 (col 4 – 8, lines 63-26) and that PPP may be transmitted after the tunnel is established (col 8 31-36). Consequently, Verma's header 114 does not have a PPP signal 124 encapsulated in the header 114. If the examiner still considers that the PPP signal 124 is encapsulated in the SCCRQ message 114, the Applicants are willing to submit a Declaration evidencing otherwise.

Applicants' claims further recite that a network address response header 314 is communicated toward the second client. In contrast, Verma discloses that a modified SCCRQ request header 214, not the response header 314, is communicated toward the second client (col. 7, lines 32-33). Furthermore, Verma discloses that a Start-Control-Connection-Reply (SCCRP) response header 314 is communicated toward the first client (col. 7, lines 36-38) and not the second client.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that independent claims 31, 36, 49, 58 and 67 are patentable over Verma et al. Dependent claims 32-35, 37-48, 50-56, 59-66 are also patentable at least based on their dependence on the independent claims as well as based on their own merit. For example, dependent claims 43, 44, 53, and 61, recite that the PPP signal comprises a control channel address identifying the second client, the control channel address being different than any data channel address recognized by the router. In contrast, Verma discloses using an IP address (col 5-6, lines 64-12), which can be recognized by the router. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the Section 102 rejections.

Response to rejections under Sections 103:

Claims 32-33, 37-38, 45-47, 55-56, 59-60, 63, 65-66 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the Examiner contending that these claims are obvious over Verma et al. (USPN 6,614,809) in view of Gai et al. (USPN 6,697,360).

For at least the reasons discussed in connection with the Section 102 rejections, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the 103 rejections.

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Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the rejections set forth in the outstanding Office Action are inapplicable to the present claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the rejections and timely pass the application to allowance. Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this paper. The commissioner is hereby authorized to char any appropriate fees due in connection with this paper, including the fees specified in 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 (c), 1.17(a)(1) and 1.20(d), or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 19-2179.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 10/12/05

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Appendix A

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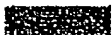
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**encapsulation**

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In general, encapsulation is the inclusion of one thing within another thing so that the included thing is not apparent. Decapsulation is the removal or the making apparent a thing previously encapsulated.

1) In **object-oriented programming**, encapsulation is the inclusion within a program **object** of all the resources need for the object to function - basically, the **methods** and the data. The object is said to "publish its interfaces." Other objects adhere to these interfaces to use the object without having to be concerned with how the object accomplishes it. The idea is "don't tell me how you do it; just do it." An object can be thought of as a self-contained atom. The object interface consists of public methods and **instantiated** data.

2) In telecommunication, encapsulation is the inclusion of one data structure within another structure so that the first data structure is hidden for the time being. For example, a **TCP/IP**-formatted data **packet** can be encapsulated within an **ATM** frame (another kind of transmitted data unit). Within the context of transmitting and receiving the ATM frame, the encapsulated packet is simply a stream of bits between the ATM data that describes the transfer.

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